

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, & OTHER ASSEMBLAGES

I. DSS Lead							
Board or Commission	Legal Citation or Executive Order	DSS Statutory Member(s)	DSS Lead Office	DSS Representative	No. of Members	Key Purpose	Notes
Advisory Council on Child Care and Development Block Grant Program	Executive Order KBB 04-28 & KBB 04-40	Secretary or designee; Director of Licensing Bureau or designee	OFS	Sherry Guarisco (OFS); Angie Rollins (Licensing)	19	Advise DSS re: recent child care developments; concerns of parents with children in day care, and needs of child day care facilities	Provide support staff and facilities for meetings
Employment Development Services Statewide Commission (State Use Council)	R.S. 39:1595.4	Designated by Secretary	LRS	Jan D'Spain (LRS)		Coordinate and facilitate implementation of provisions of R.S. 39:1595.4 requiring governmental bodies to give preference to goods manufactured and services performed in sheltered workshops	Mandated by State Law. Cannot be merged; perhaps should be lead by DOA or OCDD (LRS no longer funds sheltered workshops)
Interpreter Certification Board	R.S. 46:2352	Appointed by Commission for the Deaf	LRS	Position Vacant, Will appoint when position filled (LRS)	5	Advise the LA Commission for the Deaf in administration of the certification program for sign language interpreters, including any specialized interpreters	Louisiana Commission for the Deaf, which is responsible for the creation of Interpreter Certification Board, is established within DSS

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LA Advisory Committee on Licensing of Child Care Facilities and Child Placing Agencies (Class A)	R.S. 46:1406	Director of Licensing Bureau or designee (non-voting) and 19 other members appointed by the Governor from professions specified in law for three year terms	Licensing	Angie Rollins (Licensing)	20	Review and consult with DSS Licensing Bureau on all revisions to licensing standards for Class A day care centers; review all Class A standards, rules, and regulations at least every 3 years; advise and consult with DSS on decisions to deny, revoke, or refuse a Class A license	
LA Children's Trust Fund Board	R.S. 46:2401-2408; R.S. 36:478	Secretary or designee; OCS Asst. Secretary	OCS, OS	Marketa Gautreau (OCS); Ann Williamson (OS)	15	Determine disbursement of the amount appropriated each year from the Children's Trust Fund, for programs designed to prevent the physical and sexual abuse and gross neglect of children	Children's Trust Fund Board is established within OCS, the agency responsible for administration of the Children's Trust Fund
LA Commission for the Deaf	R.S. 46:2351; R.S. 36:478	Voc. Rehab. Services Coordinator or designee; Secretary or designee	LRS	Janell Bosage (LRS)	17	Promote, coordinate, and facilitate accessibility of all public and private services to deaf people, and serve as advocate for the needs and rights of deaf people	Commission is established within DSS
LA Committee on Private Child Care (Class B)	R.S. 46:1410	Secretary or designee	Licensing	David Lavergne (Licensing)	7	Develop minimum standards for licensure of Class B day care centers; consult with DSS Licensing on decisions to revoke or refuse to grant Class B licenses	

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LA Military Family Assistance Board	R.S. 46:122	Secretary or designee	OFS	Victoria Cooper	11	Establish rules for proper adjudication of need-based claims submitted by families of activated military personnel	Board is established under jurisdiction of DSS; administrative support shall be provided by DSS
Task Force on Legal Representation in Child Protection Cases	HCR 44, 2003 Regular Session	DSS Secretary; OCS Asst. Secretary or designee; General Counsel or designee; OCS legal fee processing section administrator	OCS; OS	Ann Williamson (OS); Marketa Gautreau (OCS); Marty Gibson (OCS); Steve Mayer (OS); Candice LeBlanc (OS); Jan Byland (OCS)	15	Make recommendations as to how legal representation services for abused and neglected children and their parents in child protection cases may be more effectively and efficiently provided and funded	DSS Secretary and Chief Justice of LA Supreme Court co-chair Task Force; DSS and LA Supreme Court provide necessary support and staff
Telephone Access Program Board	R.S. 46:2355	Appointed by Commission for the Deaf	LRS	Position Vacant – Will appoint when filled. (LRS)	13	Make recommendations for staff selection, rate/surcharge, operating budget; approve selection and distribution system of specialized equipment; approve the development, implementation, evaluation, and modification of a year-round, 24-hour dual party relay system	LA Commission for the Deaf, which is responsible for creation of the Telephone Access Program Board, is established within DSS

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Traumatic Head & Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund Advisory Board	R.S. 46:2631 - 2635; R.S. 36:478(G)	LRS Director or designee	LRS	Position Vacant, Will appoint when filled. (LRS)	13	Determine eligibility of programs to receive funding from the Traumatic Head & Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund. Monitor, evaluate, and review the development and quality of services and programs funded through the Trust Fund	Advisory Board is created within LRS; LRS is responsible for administration of the Trust Fund

II. Non-DSS Lead							
Board or Commission	Legal Citation or Executive Order	Lead Agency	DSS Statutory Member(s)	DSS Representative	No. of Members	Key Purpose	Notes
Adolescent School Health Initiative Intergovernmental Coordinating Council	R.S. 40:31.3	DHH, Office of Public Health	Representative from DSS	Victoria Cooper (OFS)	Not Specified	Assist in implementation, oversight, and funding assistance for health centers in schools	
Adult Learning Task Force	HCR 197, 2004 Regular Session	Office of the Governor	Secretary or designee	Sharon Tucker (OFS)	14	Submit recommendations to integrate, leverage, and align current adult learning services to provide effective and appropriate services that are comprehensive and customized	Report due to House Speaker, Senate President, and Governor by January 30, 2005
Advisory Council for Technology Access by Individuals with Disabilities	R.S. 39:301	Governor's Office of Information Technology	LRS Director or designee	Florence Menard (LRS)	11	Advise the chief information officer in the DOA Office of Information Technology on matters pertaining to accessibility of public databases by individuals who are disabled	Advise chief information officer in DOA Office of Information Technology of needs of blind individuals
Cabinet Advisory Group on Economic Development	R.S. 51:2383	Office of the Governor	Secretary	Ann Williamson (OS)	12	Advise, coordinate with, and provide research, informational, and staff support to the Louisiana Economic Development Council	
Children's Cabinet	R.S. 46:2602 - 2605; R.S. 36:4(b)(8)	Office of the Governor	Secretary	Ann Williamson (OS)	12	Coordinate delivery of services to children and their families and eliminate duplication of services	
Children's Cabinet Advisory Board	R.S. 46:2602 - 2605; R.S. 36:4(b)(8)	Office of the Governor	OFS Asst. Secretary; OCS Asst. Secretary	Adren Wilson (OFS); Marketa Gautreau (OCS)	46	Provide information and recommendations from the perspective of advocacy groups, service providers, and parents	

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Child Support Guidelines Review Committee	R.S. 9:315.16	DSS/OFS/SES; La. District Attorneys Association	Secretary or designee	Robbie Endris (OFS)	15	Review the child support guidelines and the findings and recommendations reported by DSS and the Louisiana District Attorneys Association	This Review Committee must submit report to legislature every four years. Next report is due in 2008
Commission on Perinatal Care and Prevention of Infant Mortality	R.S. 40:2018	DHH	Not specified in statute	Jackie Droddy (OFS)	14	Provide a plan to reduce the number of teenage pregnancies, sick infants, and infant mortalities; propose a plan for an equitable system of financing comprehensive health and social services for indigent pregnant women and infants	
Disability Services and Supports System Consumer Task Force	R.S. 28:826	Legislature	Secretary or designee	Jan D'Spain (LRS)	32	Improvement of the disability services and supports system, including the grant application process	Support the community-based initiatives of this planning group in line with our independent living philosophy
Disparity Commission	R.S. 40:1299.184-1299.188	DHH	Secretary or designee	Veda Emerson (OFS)	16	Make recommendations for implementation of services and programs to combat the disparity in death rates in Louisiana, including recommendations to increase health care prevention initiatives in the state	
Drug Policy Board	R.S. 49:219.2	Office of the Governor	Secretary	Joel McLain (OCS)	14	Coordinate efforts toward the goal of eradicating drug and alcohol abuse	

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Interagency Council on Prevention of Sex Offenses	R.S. 24:933	Legislature	OCS Asst. Secretary or designee	Patrice Waldrop (OCS)	24	Evaluate services and programs sponsored by local, state, or federal agencies or private organizations concerning the prevention of sex offenses and the treatment of sex offenders	
Juvenile Competency Task Force	HCR 179, 2005 Regular Session	Not specified	OCS Asst. Secretary or designee	Jan Byland (OCS)	21	Study issues related to juvenile competency	
LA Advisory Committee on Assisted Living	R.S. 46:2675	DHH	Secretary or designee; Licensing Bureau Director or designee	Ann Williamson (OS); Angie Rollins (Licensing)	18	Work with the assisted living consultant to provide information concerning needs and problems of elderly citizens; identify barriers which prevent persons from accessing assisted living housing and services, and make recommendations for strategies to eliminate barriers	Secretary and Director of Licensing or their designees serve on committee
LA Child Day Care Task Force	HCR 259, 1999 Regular Session; HCR 114, 2001 Regular Session	Legislature	Secretary or designee; Licensing Bureau Director or designee	Adren Wilson (OFS); Angie Rollins (Licensing)	28	Study issues related to the delivery of child day care and residential child day care	Law provides Secretary or designee and Director of Licensing to serve on Task Force. Mission of Task Force may be fulfilled
LA Commission on Employment of Mental Health Consumers	HCR 166, 2004 Regular Session; HCR 21, 2005 Regular Session	DHH, Office of Mental Health	LRS Director or designee; LRS Regional Manager of Region 2	Marsha Blackmon (LRS); Mark Martin (LRS)	21	Develop a plan to address the barriers that prevent people with mental illness from seeking, obtaining, and maintaining employment	Plan due to Legislature, DSS Secretary, and DHH Secretary prior to 2005 Regular Session

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LA Commission on HIV and AIDS	R.S. 40:2018.1	DHH/Office of the Governor	Secretary or designee	Alison Neustrom (OS)	29	Serve as an advisory body to the Governor and DHH on hepatitis C and HIV and AIDS related matters; serve as a coordinating forum on hepatitis C and HIV and AIDS related matters between state agencies, local government, and other nongovernmental groups	
LA Commission on Marriage and Family	Executive Order KBB 04-39	Office of the Governor	Secretary or designee	Lisa Woodruff-White (OS);	30	Propose and analyze programs, policies, curriculums, and/or initiatives, especially those that may be funded by TANF, which: encourage 2-parent families; prevent and/or reduce single-parent births; strengthen existing marriages in jeopardy	
LA Council on Obesity Prevention and Management	R.S. 40:1299.117; R.S. 46:2611-2613	DHH	Secretary or designee	Victoria Cooper (OFS)	31	Submit an annual report to the Governor and House and Senate Health and Welfare Committees on progress toward full implementation of services and programs to increase prevention and management of obesity in adults and children	

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LA Diabetes Initiatives Council	R.S. 46:2616-2618	DHH	Secretary or designee	Alison Neustrom (OS)	32	Annually assess the effects of diabetes mellitus in the state and the status of education, clinical research, and translation of new diabetes treatment methods	Submit an annual report, including any proposed legislation, to the Governor and both Health and Welfare Committees, at least 30 days prior to the regular session
LA Geographic Information Systems Council	R.S. 49:1053	DOA Office of Information Technology and Office of Electronic Services	DSS Representative	Duane Fontenot (OMF)	21	Guide the sound development of geographic information systems, spatially enabled data, and geographically related information technology for the state	
LA Health Works Commission	R.S. 23:1901	LA Workforce Commission	Secretary or designee	Sammy Guillory (OFS)	34	Address workforce issues in the health care industry in Louisiana; support the education of future health care workers; and work to improve the image of health care professions in Louisiana	
LA Housing and Community Development Advisory Task Force	HCR 76, 2004 Regular Session	Office of the Governor	Secretary or designee	Lisa Woodruff-White (OS)	26	Identify challenges and develop recommendations and strategies for coordinating housing and community development services within the state	Submit a written report of findings and recommendations to the House Speaker, Senate President, and Commissioner of Administration by January 15, 2005

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LA Housing Finance Agency Board of Commissioners	R.S. 40:600.4	Treasury	Secretary or Undersecretary	Lisa Woodruff-White (OS)	15	Govern various agency programs that assist in the financing of housing needs for persons of low and moderate incomes	
LA Interagency Action Council for the Homeless	Executive Order KBB 04-02	Office of the Governor	Secretary or designee; OCS Asst. Secretary or designee; LRS Director or designee; OFS Asst. Secretary or designee	Lisa Woodruff-White (OS) as Secretary designee; Janice Roberts (OCS); Rosemary Yesso (LRS); David Sique (OFS)	36	Conduct annual assessments/evaluations of services/needs of homeless; consult and coordinate activities with Federal agencies; disseminate federal, state, and private resources; recommend improvements in the delivery system by bi-annual reports to governing bodies	Working with Policy Academy to develop a State Plan to end chronic homelessness
LA Public Mental Health Review Commission	SCR 138, 1999 Regular Session; SCR 71, 2003 Regular Session; SCR 82, 2004 Regular Session; SCR 65, 2005 Regular Session	Legislature	Secretary or designee; LRS representative	Gwen Jackson (OCS)	52	Evaluate restructuring the public mental health system	
LA Sexual Assault Task Force	R.S. 15:555-556	Office of the Attorney General	Secretary or designee; OCS Asst. Secretary or designee	Rep. Kenneth Eric LaFleur (membership yielded to Rep. LaFleur by Secretary); Patrice Waldrop (OCS)	25	Examine issues relating to forensic examination of sexual assault victims and investigation of sexual assault cases	Report findings and recommendations to the Governor, Senate President, and House Speaker by July 1, 2005

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LA Solutions to Poverty (S.T.O.P.) Network Council	Executive Order KBB 05-17	Office of the Governor	Secretary or designee	Adren Wilson (OFS)	28	Create a multifaceted network of partnerships and coalitions which will spur innovations and develop solutions in addressing the needs to end poverty in Louisiana	Provide support staff, facilities, and resources
LA Solutions to Poverty (S.T.O.P.) State Steering Committee	Executive Order KBB 05-17	Office of the Governor	Secretary; OFS Asst. Sec.; OFS Family Assistance Dep. Asst. Sec.; OFS Community Mobilization Dep. Asst. Sec.; OFS Budget Director	Ann Williamson (OS), Adren Wilson (OFS), Daniel Tuman (OFS), Larry Ferdinand (OFS)	10	Develop and oversee the S.T.O.P. model of the working relationship between the state, regional, and community organizations	
LA State Child Death Review Panel	R.S. 40:2019	DHH	Secretary or designee	Cindy Phillips (OCS); Marketa Gautreau (OCS)	25	Collect data from investigations of all unexpected deaths of children 14 years of age and below, and report the causes of such deaths to the legislature	
LA State Interagency Coordinating Council for CHILDNET: LA's Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Special Needs and Their Families	R.S. 17:1979;P.L. 99-457, Part H.	Education	OFS; OCS	Adren Wilson (OFS); Anna Simon (OCS; Jan Byland (OCS)	39	Assist the Lead Agency in the identification of sources of fiscal and other support for early intervention programs; prepare and submit an annual report to the Governor and the U.S. Secretary of Education on the status of early intervention programs for infants and toddlers with special needs and their families	

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LA Task Force on Indigent Defense Services	HR 151 and SR 112, 2003 Regular Session; SCR 136, 2004 Regular Session; SCR 23, 2005 Regular Session	Senate Comm. on Judiciary C	Secretary or designee	Steve Mayer (OS); Lane Ardoin (OS)	28	Develop a strategic plan and implementation timetable for indigent defense system reform	
LA Women's Policy and Research Commission	Executive Order MJF 03-19; R.S. 46:2525	Governor's Office of Women's Policy	Secretary or designee	Sherry Guarisco (OFS)	24	Advise the Governor, through the Office of Women's Policy, on hardships, concerns, and needs that challenge Louisiana women, and possible solutions	
LA Workers' Compensation Second Injury Board	R.S. 23:1372	Dept. of Labor	Secretary	John Schweitzer (LRS)	5	Administration of the Workers' Compensation Second Injury Fund	Advise SIB chair in reference to vocational rehabilitation
LA Workforce Commission	R.S. 23:2042-2043	Office of the Governor	Secretary	Ann Williamson (OS); James Wallace (LRS)	25	Develop a strategic state plan to coordinate and integrate a workforce development system to assure the greatest cooperation possible between public and private entities	LRS plays a vital role in bringing employment of people with disabilities into the forefront. Law provides Secretary or her designee to serve on committee
LA Youth Enhanced Services Consortium	Act 28 of 2004 Regular Session; R.S. 28:311-313	DHH, Office of Mental Health	Designee of OCS Asst. Sec.	John McInturf (OCS)	12	Submit an annual plan with recommendations regarding the provision of mental health services to emotionally disturbed children within the jurisdiction of the consortium	First report is due to the Assistant Secretary of the Office of Mental Health by June 30, 2005

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Minority Health Affairs Commission	R.S. 36:259(K); R.S. 40:1299.181-1299.183	DHH	Secretary or designee	Adren Wilson (OFS); Anna Simon (OCS)	23	Make recommendations to DHH, other appropriate state agencies, and the legislature for improving the delivery and access to health and social services for minorities	
Southwest Acadiana Parishes Public Housing Rehabilitation District Board of Commissioners	R.S. 33:9039.40	Not specified	Secretary	Lisa Woodruff-White (OS)	13	Aid in providing safe, decent, and affordable housing for individuals and families who are challenged by income, disability, or special need	
Task Force on Teen Pregnancy	SR 36, 1998 Regular Session	DHH	Secretary or designee	Adren Wilson (OFS); Victoria Cooper (OFS); Sharon Tucker (OFS)	13	Study issues and problems related to teen pregnancy in Louisiana in an effort to prevent and reduce future teen pregnancies	
Women's Health Commission	R.S. 40:1300.231-232	DHH	Secretary or designee	Alison Neustrom (OS)	30	Make recommendations to DHH, other appropriate state agencies, and the Legislature for improving the delivery of and access to health and social services for women	Report of recommendations is due to both Health and Welfare Committees by October 1, 2006

III. Federally Created						
Board or Commission	Public Law	DSS Lead Office	DSS Representative	No. of Members	Key Purpose	Notes
Children's Justice Act Task Force	P. L. 99-401 (Section 109, Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, as amended); Victims of Crime Act of 1984	OCS	Steve Thibodaux (OCS)		Improve the investigation, prosecution and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect, particularly child sexual abuse and exploitation, in a manner that limits additional trauma to the child victim	
Developmental Disabilities Council	Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act 1994, Public Law 104-183, et seq.; R.S. 28:750-758	LRS	James Wallace (LRS)	28	Coordinate, monitor, plan, and evaluate those services, other assistance, and opportunities necessary to enable persons with developmental disabilities to achieve their maximum potential	Represents employment needs of people with disabilities
Families Helping Families	Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act 1994, Public Law 104-183, et seq.	LRS	Marsha Blackmon (LRS)		Enable and empower families of individuals with special needs through an effective coordinated network of resources, support, and services	Represents employment needs of people with disabilities
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Advisory Board	Juvenile Justice Amendments of 1980, P.L. 96-509	OCS	John McInturf (OCS)	31	Identify and respond to root causes of juvenile delinquency problems through comprehensive, collaborative prevention planning	This committee is by invitation only and the OCS seat is statutory
LA Refugee Resettlement Program Advisory Council	Title IV, Immigration and Nationality Act; CFR Part 400.5(h); Revised Council By-Laws (1991)	OCS	Steve Thibodaux (OCS)		Comprised of individuals in both the private and public sector who are involved in the resettlement of refugees to Louisiana	
LA Rehabilitation Advisory Council	Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 US Code, Section 725),as amended; KBB 04-33	LRS	James Wallace (LRS)	24	Review, analyze, and advise LRS regarding the performance of its responsibilities	Advisory Council is established within DSS
Medical Care Advisory Committee	Section 1902(a)(4) of Social Security Act	OFS	Kay Hoffpauir (OFS)		Improve and maintain the quality of the State's Medicaid Program	